

Council/Agency Meeting Held: _____	_____ City Clerk's Signature
Deferred/Continued to: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
Council Meeting Date: 11/15/2004	Department ID Number: CA 04-029

## CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

**SUBMITTED TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS  
**SUBMITTED BY:** PENELOPE CULBRETH-GRAFT, CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
**PREPARED BY:** JIM B. ENGLE, DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**SUBJECT:** ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2004-90 ESTABLISHING THE  
 POLICY FOR THE NAMING OF CITY PARKS, PARK FEATURES  
 AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND REPEALING CONFLICTING  
 RESOLUTIONS

2004 NOV - 2 P 1:08 PM  
 CITY CLERK  
 CITY OF  
 HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

Statement of Issue, Funding Source, Recommended Action, Alternative Action(s), Analysis, Environmental Status, Attachment(s)

**Statement of Issue:** The Community Services Commission has formulated recommended changes to Resolution No. 2001-64 relative to the park naming and memorials policy and messages placed on benches donated by the general public.

**Funding Source:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution No. 2004-90, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach Establishing Its Policy for the Naming of City Parks, Park Features and Community Facilities and Repealing Conflicting Resolutions.

**Alternative Action(s):** Do not adopt Resolution amending the park naming policy, and refer back to Community Services Commission.

**Analysis:** Per City Council direction, the Community Services Commission reviewed the park naming policy based upon Council concerns (Attachment 1) that the current policy placed too much emphasis on naming parks after past mayors. In addition, being aware that very few parks remain to be named in the city, the commission did not want to totally abandon the tradition of naming parks after past mayors, nor create a policy that would politicize the process. Moreover, the commission felt that the current policy already has flexibility in the naming of parks, e.g., Worthy, Carr, Baca, and Discovery Well Parks and Rodger's Senior Center. These facilities were not named after mayors, but for worthy individuals in recognition of their contribution to the city and nation.

In modifying the language as shown in the legislative draft (Attachment 2), the Community Services Commission feels that the policy now provides the most flexibility and adequately

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## REQUEST FOR ACTION

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addresses Council's concerns. Briefly, less restrictive wording has been used, i.e., "may" has replaced "shall;" honorees can be considered because of their unique contributions or impact on city, state or nation; and, the oldest, living designation for mayoral honorees has been removed. (Attachment 3)

The Community Services Commission also reviewed the Bench Donation Program in terms of appropriate content to be placed on the benches. Though there have been no inappropriate messages placed on donated benches in the city, this has happened in other cities. To avoid this possibility, the commission is recommending the inscriptions on benches be limited to 1) The name only; 2) In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ (individual's name); or 3) In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ (individual's name); all three options would include the year of dedication. The City Attorney concurs with this approach to the issue (Attachment 4). Staff recommends Council adopt the new park naming policy as set forth in Attachment 5.

**Environmental Status:** N/A

**Attachment(s):**

City Clerk's Page Number	No.	Description
3	1.	H Item of City Council Member Debbie Cook dated April 15, 2004
6	2.	Legislative Draft
9	3.	Park Naming Committee Recommendations
14	4.	RLS 2004-1218, response from Jennifer McGrath, City Attorney
18	5.	Resolution No. <u>2004-90</u>
21	6.	PowerPoint Presentation

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